

**Replacement Page 1, 1st Paragraph**

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention concerns a method and means for determining specific conditions or changes in the uterus. Conditions of the uterine epithelium or epithelium of other organs that are to be determined in particular by the invention are the receptivity of the endometrium for the implantation of an embryo or neoblastic and tumorous changes. The field of application is medicine, particularly gynecology and oncology.

**Replacement Page 3, 3rd Full Paragraph**

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

It is an object of the invention to provide a method and means for determining specific conditions or changes in the uterus and in other organs, in particular, the endometrium but also in the epithelia of other organs. Conditions of the uterus to be determined in particular by means of the invention are the receptivity of the endometrium for the implantation of an embryo or neoplastic or tumorous changes.

**Replacement Page 7, 4th Full Paragraph**

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The method according to the invention is explained with the aid of the flowchart of Fig. 1. The primer 1 employed in Fig. 1 (amplification of total  $\beta$ hCG) is not marked, primer 2 (amplification of total  $\beta$ hCG) contains the fluorescence marker NED.

**Replacement Page 8, 2nd Paragraph**

**DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS**

The oligonucleotide primer pairs 1 and 2, according to SEQ ID NO. 1 and NO. 2, 1 and 11, according to SEQ ID NO. 1 and NO. 11, as well as 14 and 2, according to SEQ ID NO. 14 and NO. 2 of the sequence listing have been selected such that, by employing the total RNA and the RT-PCR method, the sum of all  $\beta$ hCG transcripts  $\beta$ 5,  $\beta$ 8,  $\beta$ 3 and also  $\beta$ 7,  $\beta$ 6 are represented with the same efficiency in a first amplification step. These mentioned primer pairs exclude the  $\beta$ LH amplification because of different nucleotide sequences.